

ALASKA TRIBAL-STATE FORUM ON SAFETY AND JUSTICE

***Northwest Arctic Region
June 9-10, 2008
Kotzebue, Alaska***

REPORT



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Sponsored by the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

In partnership with the Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Department of Law, Alaska Court System, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the Alaska Native Justice Center.

Support for this project is provided by the Office on Violence Against Women, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice Grant 2006-WE-AX-0042.

Tribal-State Forum on Safety and Justice Agenda
Bingo Hall
Kotzebue, Alaska
June 9-10, 2008

MONDAY

- 8:00-8:20 *Registration*
- 8:20-9:00 *Welcome, Announcements and Introductions*
- 9:00-9:40 **Domestic Violence Basics**
Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Break
- 9:45 -10:25 **Healing Historical Trauma/Strengthening Families with Alaska Native Values**
Elizabeth (Cookie) Rose, Community Coordinator, Kauffman & Associates
Break
- 10:35-11:25 **Domestic Violence: The Role of Law Enforcement and Mandatory Arrest**
Katie TePas, Program Coordinator, Alaska State Troopers
Break
- 11:30 -12:20 **Civil Legal Remedies: Protective Orders, Divorce and Child Custody**
Christine McLeod Pate, Director, Pro Bono Project, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- 12:20-1:20 *Lunch*
- 1:20 -1:30 **Question and Answers**
- 1:30-2:10 **Elder Abuse – Vulnerable Adults**
Katie TePas, Program Coordinator, Alaska State Troopers
Break
- 2:15-2:55 **Practical Skills For Victim Advocacy and Safety Planning**
Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Christine King, Project Coordinator Center for Human Development, UAA
Break
- 3:05-3:55 **Advocacy and Safety Planning (continued)**
Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Christine King, Project Coordinator Center for Human Development, UAA
Break
- 4:00-4:50 **Advocacy for Survivors with Substance Use Issues**
Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- 4:50-5:00 **Question and Answers**

TUESDAY

- 8:15-8:30 *Registration*
- 8:30-9:20 **State Domestic Violence Laws and Prosecutorial Decision-Making - Plead, Dismiss or Trial**
Paul Roetman, Assistant District Attorney, Kotzebue Office of the District Attorney
Break
- 9:25-10:15 **Victims' Rights and Victim/Witness Paralegals**
Maureen (Mo) Koezuna, Victim/Witness Paralegal, Nome Office of the District Attorney, Elaine Synder, Victim/Witness Paralegal, Kotzebue Office of the District Attorney
Break
- 10:25-11:15 **The Role of the Courts in Protection Orders and Sentencing**
Honorable Richard Erlich, Superior Court Judge, Alaska Court System
Break
- 11:20-12:00 **Alaska Native Justice and Domestic Violence**
Kevin Illingworth, JD, Professor, University of Alaska Fairbanks Linda McLaughlin, Victim Advocate/Trainer, Alaska Native Justice Center
- 12:00-1:00 *Lunch*
- 1:00-1:10 **Questions and Answers**
- 1:10-2:00 **Tribal Jurisdictions and Tribal Courts**
Kevin Illingworth, JD, Professor, University of Alaska Fairbanks and Linda McLaughlin, Victim Advocate/Trainer, Alaska Native Justice Center
Break
- 2:05 – 2:55 **Legal Advocacy and Mandated Reporting**
Andrea Browning, Coordinator, Legal Advocacy Project, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Break
- 3:05– 3:55 **Challenges and Solutions Work Session**
- 3:55- 4:15 **Challenges and Solutions Reports**
Break
- 4:20-4:30 **Evaluations**

Participants



Northwest Arctic Region Participants

Forty-three (43) participants attended the two-day training held at the Bingo Hall in Kotzebue. Twenty-six (26) of the participants live in Kotzebue. Sixteen (16) trainees traveled to Kotzebue from nine (9) smaller Northwest Arctic region villages. A UAA disability project staff person also traveled from Anchorage to attend the training.

Ambler (2)	Kotzebue (26)
Anchorage (1)	Noatak (1)
Deering (2)	Point Hope (2)
Kiana (2)	Selawik (1)
Kivalina (3)	Shugnak (2)
Kobuk (1)	

Participants included:

Correction Personnel (1)

Court personnel (2)

Superior Court Judge, Magistrate

Disability organization staff (1)

Health professionals (3)

physician, forensic nurse practitioner SANE, community health practitioner

Law enforcement officers (7)

State trooper, police chief, officers (5)

Mental health professionals (10)

Staff development specialist, counselor, Itinerant therapists (4) and village based counselors (4)

Tribal government/Tribal government agency staff (5)

Tribal administrators (2), family resource director, youth program coordinator, care coordinator (Bring the Kids Home)

Victim advocates (14)

MFCC supervisor, advocates (4) and safe home providers (9)

Presentations



Patti Bland ANDVSA Director of Training (left) explains the dynamics of domestic violence. Cookie Rose Community Coordinator (right) talks about the historic traumas Alaska Natives have suffered.



Katie TePas of the Alaska State Troopers (left) explains state domestic violence law, mandatory arrest policies and the role of law enforcement. Christine McLeod Pate director of ANDVSA's Pro-Bono program explains how survivors may seek protection orders, divorce and child custody.

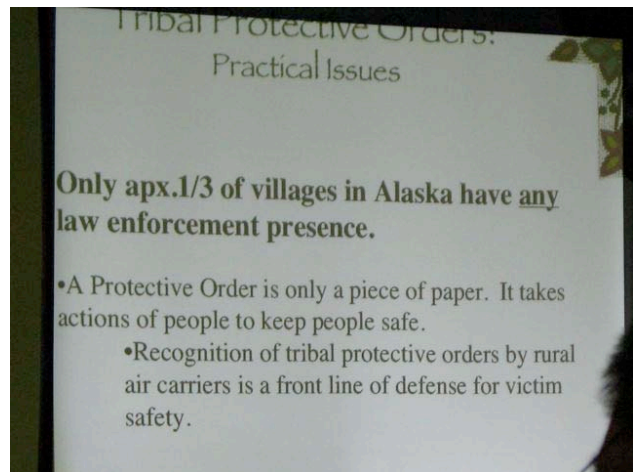


Christine King Center for Human Development Coordinator (left) and Patti Bland (center) teach safety planning and advocacy for survivors, especially when victims are elderly, have disabilities or abuse substances. Doug Modig (right) talked about his involvement in the Alaska Native Sobriety Movement.





Kevin Illingworth, UAF assistant professor of Tribal Management (left) and Linda McLaughlin, Alaska Native Justice Center advocate/trainer (right) talk about how tribal courts can deal with domestic violence and how the Justice Center can help.



Paul Roetman Kotzebue Assistant District Attorney (left) explains the decisions prosecutors make in domestic violence crimes. Department of Law Victim-Witness Paralegals Mo Koezuna from Nome and Elaine Snyder of Kotzebue explain the rights of victims of crime.



Kotzebue Superior Court Judge Richard Erlich (left) talks about the role of the court in domestic violence in both civil and criminal cases. Andrea Browning ANDVSA Legal Advocacy Project Coordinator (right) tests participants on domestic violence legal terms in a game of Jeopardy with sweets for correct answers.



Faculty and Staff

Fourteen (14) faculty and staff participated in or presented at the forum.

Patricia Bland, ANDVSA, Director of Training

Andrea Browning, ANDVSA, Legal Advocacy Project Coordinator

Richard Erlich, Alaska Court System, Superior Court Judge

Sherrie Goll, CDVSA, Project Coordinator

Jo Griggs, CDVSA, Business Manager

Christine King, UAA Center for Human Development, Project Coordinator

Maureen “Mo” Koezuna, Nome Office of the District Attorney, Victim-Witness Paralegal

Kevin Illingworth, UAF, Assistant Professor of Tribal Management

Linda McLaughlin, Alaska Native Justice Center, Victim Advocate/Trainer

Christine McLeod Pate, ANDVSA, Pro-Bono Project Director

Paul Roetman, Kotzebue Office of the District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney

Elizabeth “Cookie” Rose, Kauffman & Associates, Coordinator

Elaine Snyder, Kotzebue Office of the District Attorney, Victim-Witness Paralegal

Katie TePas, Alaska State Troopers, Program Coordinator

Training Content Areas

Domestic Violence and Victim Advocacy

Abuse of vulnerable adults
Advocate response
Confidentiality and legal advocacy
Domestic violence overview, dynamics, services
Safety planning for victims/survivors
Sexual assault overview
Stalking overview

Justice System

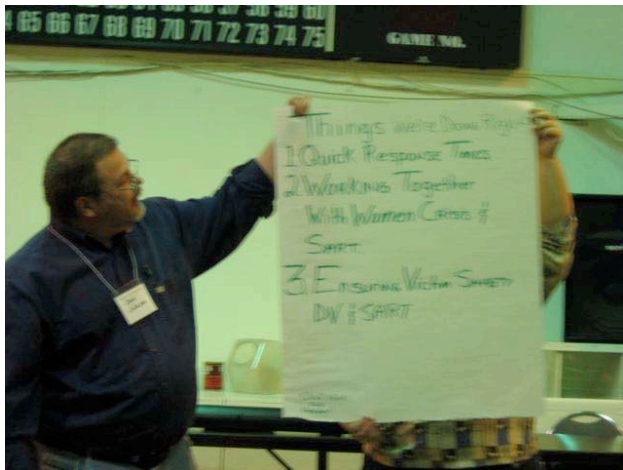
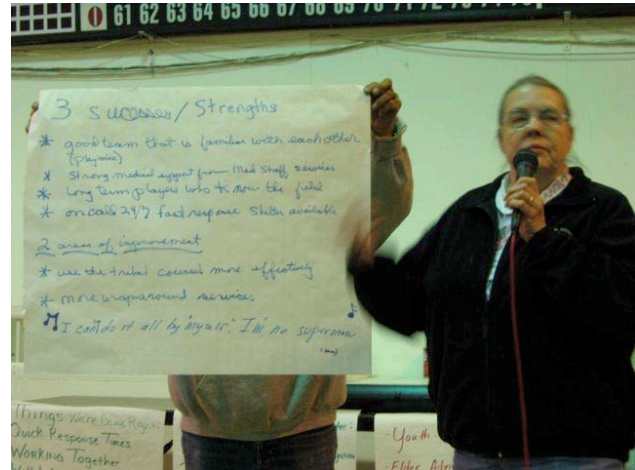
Civil court procedures
Criminal court procedures
Decreasing dual arrests/ID of primary aggressor
Domestic violence statutes and codes
Law enforcement response
Judicial Response
Pro-arrest policies
Prosecution response
Protection orders (including full faith and credit)
Sexual assault statutes and codes
Stalking statutes and codes
Tribal jurisdiction and PL 280
Victims' Rights

Underserved Populations

Issues specific to victims/survivors who:

- live in rural areas
- are Alaska Natives
- have substance abuse or mental health problems
- are elderly or have a disability

Local Challenges and Solutions



Northwest Arctic Region Challenges and Solutions

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Speaking up
Getting more involved w/community
Reporting
Observing/awareness
Shelters/safe homes
Access to healthcare and medical attention
On-call 24/7
Quick response time
Working together with women in crisis and SART
Ensuring victim safety DV and SART
Child protection team in Point Hope
Youth – Elder Community Involvement
Tribal youth program in Kotzebue
Elder advice
Active Tribal Council in Kivalina
Community support in Kotzebue and Kivalina
Cooperation - good team, familiar with each other, long-term players know the field
Reviving the culture (w/cultural camp)
Healthy Activities
Education for children
Traditional and domestic skills
Strong medical support from medical staff services

THINGS WE CAN DO BETTER

VPO/VPSO in every village
Better follow-up investigation
More access to information on DV/SART in villages
Encourage timely reporting
Use tribal councils more effectively
More wrap around services
Collaboration - I can't do it by "myself", I'm no superman
Tribal courts

LOCAL CHALLENGES TO SAFETY

Influence of western culture
Lack of accountability
Lack of will
Lack of jobs
Lack of local law enforcement
No law resources or facilities
No crisis response teams
Slow response time
Turnovers

Lack of village-based services
Lack of Funding Exchange
More outreach – knowledge/training
Importation still happening in “dry” villages
Suicides
Need Detention center and halfway house for youth in Kotzebue
Need recovery program for youth in Kivalina
More positive activities for youth region-wide
Skill building